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Exception to the rule . .

THE slowing down of organised activities in the Swiss community is a fairly general phenomenon due to the ageing of the Swiss resident population.

However, there is at least one exception to this decline, and it is to be found with the mothers' group of the Swiss Church in London.

How could such a group piece together a gigantic coloured patchwork and sell 6,000 raffle tickets to dispose of it in support of the Swiss Church if this were not so?

The draw took place at the end of a highly successful "Mini-bazaar" at the Swiss Church. Mrs René Caillat, wife of the Swiss Ambassador and prompter of the tombola, plunged her arm deep into the raffle box to pick out a ticket to the name of Mrs Jeannette Forman, of Hounslow, Middlesex.

At the end of the ceremony Mrs Maya Harhalakis, one of the

organisers of the mothers' group, handed to the Rev Urs Steiner a cheque for £1,500, the amount raised by the raffle in aid of the Swiss Church.

In addition, more than £1,000 was realised during the afternoon bazaar at which a crowd of 250 people packing the Swiss Church could make provisions of all sorts of home made cakes, sweets, almonds, jams and other good things.

The patchwork consists of

4,000 hexagons of a hundred individual designs which were handsewn and put together by members of the mothers' group.

Created more than ten years ago by the Rev Marcel Dietler, this group consists of more than 170 mothers of Swiss origin married in Britain and holds regular meetings.

Their creation of deep blue and crimson was officially described as a "bedspread", but was probably large enough to

cover at least two double beds.

This first "Mini-bazaar" to be held at the Swiss Church proved an extremely successful initiative which brought a welcome addition to the funds raised at the main bazaar every two years. It is expected that part of the £2,500 raised will be spent on decoration work in the Swiss Church.

For more information about the mothers' group contact the Rev Urs Steiner, 1 Womersley Road, London N8 9AE.

Swiss Rifle Association celebrates

MEMBERS and guests of the Swiss Rifle Association celebrated the end of the 1981 season at the annual dinner dance and prizegiving which was held at the Fayre Shares Restaurant in Bishopsgate recently.

The skill of "Schutzenkönig"

Traugott Schaffner was evident by the results showing him to be the clear winner of five trophies and achieving first place in the Obligatorische, Feldschiessen and St Gallen events.

The Senior Cup was awarded to vice president Peter Fischer, and Josef and Trudi Tresch

received the Tresch and ladies trophies respectively.

Armin Loetscher was responsible for the attractive and successful tombola in addition to organising the evening's programme which included an Alpenhorn contest - convincingly won by Roger Zubler.



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